

Dec. 24

**Would Change Maine Lobster Law.**

A petition is being circulated by Charles A. Maxwell of Portland asking the Maine Legislature to amend the law in regard to the measurement of lobsters with a view of changing the requirements from 10½ inches to nine inches in length or to have the Maine law the same as the Massachusetts law. Mr. Maxwell will represent the fishermen before the legislative committee at the time of the hearing.

A bill is also being drafted for a close time on lobsters from the first of July to the first of September.

**Fishing Fleet Movements.**

Sch. Lizzie M. Stanley of this port was at Louisburg, C. B., Wednesday with 12,000 pounds of fresh fish on board.

Sch. Arbutus was at Shelburne, N. S. on Wednesday.

Capt. Peter Tobin of sch. Lottie G. Merchant reports speaking sch. Titania on Browns bank last Sunday. The vessel was on good fishing and Capt. Vale wished to be reported all well.

Dec. 24

**Portland Fish Notes.**

An unusually rough trip was reported by the captain of sch. Richard of Gloucester when he came in here Thursday. He had been fishing for about 10 days and bad weather was encountered during the whole of that time. He landed 30,000 pounds of fish for J. W. Trefethen.

The only other fish fare in was sch. Pantooset which took out 3000 pounds at Commercial wharf.

**Salt Herring Cargo Sold.**

The fare of Bay of Islands, N. F., salt herring of sch. Arthur James sold to the Gorton-Pew Fisheries Company and the Cunningham & Thompson Company at \$4.12 1-2 per barrel.

Dec. 27.

**TWO ARRIVALS  
SINCE FRIDAY.****BOTH VESSELS ARE FROM BONNE  
BAY, N. F., WITH SALT  
HERRING.**

Since sch. Carrie F. arrived here last Friday night, there have been just two crafts reach this port with fish fares and both are from Bonne Bay, N. F., with cargoes of salt herring. Both these crafts have not been long gone, as the Madonna only sailed from here on December 2 and the Wells on December 3.

The fleet of market boats which tied up here over Christmas remained at the wharves this morning with no sign of a move to go out so it is a good safe bet that it isn't much of a fish day outside.

**Today's Arrivals and Receipts.**

The arrivals and receipts in detail are:

Sch. Helen G. Wells, Bonne Bay, N. F., 1000 bbls. salt herring, 100 bbls. pickled herring.

Sch. Madonna, Bonne Bay, N. F., 1350 bbls. salt herring, 70 bbls. pickled herring.

**Vessels Sailed.**

Sch. Marguerite Haskins, pollocking.

Sch. Mettacomet, pollocking.

Sch. Valentinna, Boston.

Sch. Rita A. Viator, haddocking.

Sch. Annie and Jennie, haddocking.

**Today's Fish Market.**

Bay of Islands salt herring, \$4.12 1-2 per bbl., Bonne Bay salt herring \$3.75 per bbl., pickled herring \$5 per bbl.

Eastern deck handline salt cod, \$5.55 per cwt.; for large \$5 for mediums and \$5 for snappers.

Bank halibut 12 cts. per lb. for white, 11 cts. for gray, with the heads on.

Salt cusk, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$2.

Salt haddock, \$2 per cwt.

Salt hake, \$2 per cwt.

Salt pollock, \$2 per cwt.

Splitting prices for fresh fish:

Codfish, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$1.80; snappers, 80c.

Cusk, large, \$1.75 per cwt.; medium \$1.30; snappers, 50c.

Haddock, \$1.10 per cwt.; hake, \$1.30 per cwt.; dressed pollock, \$1.20 per cwt.; round pollock, \$1.15 per cwt.

Georges handline salt cod, \$5.25 for large and \$4.75 for medium.

Dec. 27.

**HERRING SCARCE ON  
TREATY COAST.****LACK OF CONTINUOUS COLD****WEATHER BOTHERING****NEWFOUNDLAND FLEET.**

Advices to the Times from the Newfoundland treaty coast state that of late, no great amount of herring have been taken. One day there would be a small catch, increasing to a considerable quantity the next day, and then followed by several days of entire blank.

A week ago Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday the weather was cold and quite a number of herring were spread and frozen at Bonne Bay. Monday the cold weather turned to mild, accompanied by a heavy rain which washed off most of the snow and left the roads in fearful condition.

Mild weather at this season of the year, when the fishermen anxiously look for frost, knocks all plans in the head. Wednesday the wind came around northwest with a few flakes of snow.

The fishermen and skippers are all looking for the body of herring to strike in and it certainly ought to come soon. Last season the herring acted just the same as they are acting this season.

On Wednesday, when it looked as though there was going to be a snow storm, it turned to rain again, but the snow did come that night finally and Thursday and Thursday night were cold enough to freeze herring.

On Thursday the reports from the Arms were not satisfactory. There were no fish in the North Arm and but few in the Middle Arm. In the Humber there appeared to be good fishing, but there was only one vessel there and that was not an American craft. What few nets were set in the Humber Wednesday night made good catches. This happened once before this season in the Humber; fine fishing for a short time and then a blank.

Herring are reported falling off at Bonne Bay.

At Bay of Islands on Friday there appeared to be but little change in the conditions which had prevailed all the week; no frost and no great amount of herring.

Sch. Lizzie Griffin is probably loaded as she needed but a few barrels to complete her cargo a few days ago.

Dec. 27.

**MAINE WARDENS ACTIVE.****Making Lively Search Among Fishermen for Short Lobsters.**

That seizure of the lobster smack C. B. Harrington a couple of weeks ago has but whetted the appetite of the Maine fish wardens for more short lobsters.

They have jumped on the job and it is said the word has been passed all down the line so that every man who has been dealing in shorts has been notified to be on the look-out. It has been known for some time that shorts have been peddled out by fishermen about the bay, both to the summer visitors and to others. The work has been done quietly and only rarely has there been any arrest.

Some of these fishermen, so it is said, have removed their field of operations to Portland and have been selling lobsters from some of the wharves. On Friday, according to the stories told by the fishermen themselves, an unusual activity was being displayed by the wardens. One of them made a trip four times down one wharf in the hope of landing some of the illegal shell fish. Other wardens about the bay were also active.

One story was told about two fishermen who were coming up from the Islands. They had 800 shorts when they were told the wardens were about. Every one of the crustaceans were then thrown overboard.

"There goes our Christmas money," was the remark made by one of the men as he turned his boat around and started for home.

Dec. 27.

The fishermen say they are dealing in shorts because they can find a market for them in Massachusetts. They complain about the difference in the law in the two states and declare that it should be made uniform. In this, they are taking the same stand as the dealers and say they are losing money because of their inability to sell count lobsters when "cullings" can be disposed of in greater numbers.

**Portland Fish Notes.**

Friday's fishing arrivals were schs. Mildred V. Nunan, 7000 lbs. fresh fish, and Albert D. Willard, 6000 lbs. fresh fish.

Quite a party of local fishermen spent Christmas in their former homes in Gloucester, among them being Otis Sudbury, F. M. Harty, John Callahan, Winfield Dennison, John Cannavan, and F. M. Harty, Jr., who has been the guest of his father here during the past week.

Sunday, in the way of fish arrivals, schs. Mildred V. Nunan and Edmund F. Black came in from the fishing grounds, the former with a trip of 12,000 and the latter with 5000 pounds mixed fish for the local market.

Dec. 27.

**SOME BIG TRIPS  
AT T WHARF.****SCH. CONQUEROR HAS BANNER  
FARE LEADING BOTH STEAM  
TRAWLERS.**

There is considerable "class" to the fishing arrivals at T wharf this morning, for among the 15 arrivals are several which will rank as the biggest and best trips of the season thus far. Indeed there isn't a poor trip at the dock and even the little Plymouth netters, whose crews hung out over Christmas, will receive their reward therefor in the good shares they will make.

Sch. Conqueror has the banner fare, 86,000 pounds, 60,000 pounds of which are haddock. Sch. Slade Gorton is also on deck with a big catch, 78,000 pounds, 45,000 pounds of which are haddock and 24,000 cod.

The steam trawler Foam has a fine haul, 68,000 pounds and all haddock. She has been out but a few days and fished on the southwest part of Georges, as did her mate, the Spray, which, on her first trip in command of Capt. Ralph Thomas, has 40,000 pounds, also all haddock.

Capt. Conrad is keeping things humming in the knockabout Virginia and has 49,000 pounds, all but 1000 pounds of which are haddock, from the "southwest part."

The five Plymouth netters have from 3500 to 7000 pounds each and the market boats haul for from 12,000 to 19,000 pounds.

Sch. Valentinna has 9000 pollock and the Viking 6000, but they are getting \$3.50 per hundred for them, which is fancy for pollock.

New shore haddock brought \$4.75 and new off-shores \$1, with \$3 for old stock. Large cod are quoted at from \$3.50 to \$5 and hake \$3.50 to \$5.25.

T wharf was deserted by the "fleet" Sunday, all of the fishermen having dispersed to their various homes.

The greater part of them, especially those American born, have homes in Gloucester. The Italian and Portuguese of the schooner and pony fleet made merry in the Italian quarter of the North End, and the fish wharf was as silent as the grave all day Monday and Monday evening.

**Boston Arrivals.**

The fares and prices at the wharf this morning are:

Steamer Foam, 68,000 haddock, 300 cod.

Steamer Spray, 40,000 haddock.

Sch. Georgianna, 15,000 haddock, 9000 cod, 1000 hake, 5000 cusk.

Sch. Virginia, 48,000 haddock, 1000 cod.

Sch. Valentinna, 9000 pollock.

Sch. Slade Gorton, 45,000 haddock, 24,000 cod, 6000 hake, 3000 pollock.

Sch. Alice, 7000 haddock, 3000 cod, 1500 hake.

Sch. Lillian, 7000 cod.

Sch. Cherokee, 3500 cod.

Sch. Sylvester, 5000 cod.

Sch. Florida, 7200 cod.

Sch. W. H. Reed, 6000 cod.

Sch. Evelyn L. Thompson, 6500 haddock, 2500 cod, 10,000 hake.

Sch. Viking, 6000 pollock.

Sch. Conqueror, 60,000 haddock, 14,000 cod, 10,000 hake, 2000 pollock.

Haddock, \$3 to \$4.75 per cwt.; large cod, \$3.50 to \$5; market cod, \$2.25 to \$2.50; hake, \$3.50 to \$5.25; pollock, \$3.40 to \$3.50; cusk, \$2.50.



Dec. 27.

## Fishing Fleet Movements.

Sch. Effie M. Prior was at Halifax, N. S. Thursday and cleared.  
Sch. Esperanto was at Shelburne, N. S. Friday and cleared.

## Will Fit For Fresh Halibuting.

Capt. Nathaniel Greenleaf will start in today to fit out sch. Kineo for fresh halibuting. "Capt. Nat" made a big record last year and all his friends are wishing that he "keeps it up."  
Capt. Albert Saulnberg will start in today to fit out sch. Selma for fresh halibuting.

Dec. 28.

SCH. SENATOR  
HAS HALIBUT.ONLY FISHING ARRIVAL AT THIS  
PORT REPORTED THIS  
MORNING.

Sch. Senator came in this morning from a fresh halibut trip to Quero bank. The craft has been up against hard weather about all the time since leaving here and also found fish very scarce, so her catch is a small one.

About all of the market boats went out during the night and it looks like a fine fishing day on the shore grounds.

## Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

The arrivals and receipts in detail are:

Sch. Senator, Quero Bank, 2000 lbs. fresh halibut, 2000 lbs. flitched halibut, 1000 lbs. salt cod.

Sch. Skade Gorton, via Boston.

## Vessels Sailed.

Sch. W. H. Moody, Georges.  
Sch. Thomas S. Gorton, haddocking.  
Sch. Mary F. Curtis, haddocking.  
Sch. Mary E. Silveria, haddocking.  
Sch. Frances P. Mesquita, haddock-  
ing.

Sch. Mabel Bryson, pollock.  
Sch. Margaret Dillon, haddocking.  
Sch. Harriet, haddocking.  
Sch. Emily Cooney, haddocking.  
Sch. Mary E. Cooney, haddocking.  
Sch. Maud F. Silva, haddocking.  
Sch. Emily Sears, haddocking.  
Sch. Ida S. Brooks, haddocking.  
Sch. Moonam, haddocking.

## Today's Fish Market.

Bay of Islands salt herring, \$4.12 1-2 per bbl. Bonne Bay salt herring, \$3.62½ per bbl. pickled herring \$5 per bbl.

Eastern deck handline salt cod, \$5.55 per cwt.; for large \$5 for mediums and \$5 for snappers.

Bank halibut 12 cts. per lb. for white, 11 cts. for gray, with the heads on.

Salt cusk, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$2.

Salt haddock, \$2 per cwt.

Salt hake, \$2 per cwt.

Salt pollock, \$2 per cwt.

Splitting prices for fresh fish:

Codfish, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$1.80; snappers, 80c.

Cusk, large, \$1.75 per cwt.; medium \$1.30; snappers, 50c.

Haddock, \$1.10 per cwt.; hake, \$1.30 per cwt.; dressed pollock, \$1.30 per cwt.; round pollock, \$1.20 per cwt.

Georges handline salt cod, \$5.55 for large and \$5.50 for medium.

Dec. 28.

## Portland Fish Notes.

Ten fish laden vessels and several Hampton boats came into Portland yesterday with the result that over 80,000 pounds of mixed fish were landed on Commercial and Central wharves. The fleet included several schooners and a few sloops and the fares landed varied in weight from 20,000 to 2000 pounds. The schooner Robert and Carr was the high liner with 20,000 pounds of mixed fish. The arrivals and their fares follow:

Robert and Carr, 20,000 pounds; Berrie and Bessie, 10,000 pounds; Fannie just received repairs at Long wharf 8000 pounds; Katie L. Palmer, 5000 pounds; Angie B. Watson, 15,000 pounds; Crusader, 2500 pounds; Hattie and Eliza, 2000 pounds; Rough Rider, 2500 pounds; Hampton boats, 10,090 pounds; total, 88,000 pounds.

The fishing sloop Sea Foam has independence oil stock to be advanced included in which was the installation of two new seven horse power twin screw Hartford engines, which are set well aft, with the shaft logs going out through her counters.

Dec. 28.

## Salt Mackerel Imports.

The imports of salt mackerel at Boston to date are 28,097 barrels against 23,430 barrels in 1909, 33,350 barrels in 1908, 20,539 barrels in 1907, 34,168 barrels in 1906 and 37,676 barrels in 1905, all to date.

Dec. 28.

## PROGRESS REPLIES TO HIS CRITICS.

Conclusions Based On Free Trade  
Question and Misstatements.

To the Editor of the Times:—In reading the articles in last week's Times, signed respectively "Citizen" and "Merchant," the writer was somewhat surprised that both should base their conclusions on the question of free green fish and its effect upon the industries of Gloucester mainly upon a mis-statement of fact, and upon the question of free trade.

Neither "Citizen" nor "Merchant" questioned the facts upon which Progress opinion was based, nor offered any new facts upon the subject, but asked some questions and made some statements to which I will refer briefly.

"Citizen" says that vessel and firm shrinkage is a fact that everyone knows. While it may be generally known, it seemed to have been overlooked in some recent discussions of the question.

To the desire expressed that he would like to see one free trader come out and tell the true reason why, I would state, that not being a free trader I will not attempt to state the reason why.

As to the fact of our fleet being wiped out, under free trade, if it had not been for the tremendous catches of mackerel, I would suggest that it was an opinion rather than a fact, and that free trade is not the question under consideration.

Admitting that the fleet and firm shrinkage is due largely to the decline of the mackerel fisheries, is it not reasonable to assume that any considerable increase in the fleet depends upon a revival of the mackerel fisheries, and not upon the duty on green fish?

To the query whether free trade with Canada would give back to Gloucester, the catching, packing, etc., of hundreds of thousands of barrels of mackerel we had in the fat years, I would recommend that the question be referred to the Hague.

The statement that "Progress" admits that free trade would wipe out the fleet is incorrect. "Progress" made no such statement, as a reference to the article will show, but did state that the growth of the country and the increasing demand for both salt and fresh fish and especially the development of the fresh fish business indicate that our present fleet will not materially decrease.

As regards the worth or value as an asset of "Progress's" opinion, or as against the opinion of the men who comprise the Gorton-Pew Fisheries Company, the Cunningham & Thomp-

son Company, Sylvanus Smith Company and other producers, I would say, that with due respect for the gentlemen referred to, it is still the opinion of "Progress" and that it is unbiased, and is based upon facts and upon the present conditions of the fishing business.

The statement, that the middleman is a disturber and is being everywhere cut out in business circles, evidently refers to the ten non-producing fishing firms. The Russia Cement Company and other firms which handle the raw products of the fisheries, and manufacture and distribute the finished articles. The term middleman would seem to apply with as much propriety to a shoe or cotton manufacturer, and the statement that they are disturbers to be cut out, is certainly a remarkable one, and not in accord with the general sentiment that we should encourage our present industries, and endeavor to have other industries locate here.

While there may be some who believe that if the fleet went to Nova Scotia the business would follow, the probabilities of either vessels or business going there seems remote.

I have endeavored to answer the questions of "Citizen" and will refer to the article signed "Merchant."

"Merchant" states that he read with great interest "Citizen's" reply to "Progress," and that he agrees with "Citizens," that our large fishing interest are the best judges of whether free green fish are or are not a benefit to them. In reply I would say that "Progress" does not question their judgment upon the question.

"Merchant" states that "Progress" admits that free green fish would wipe out our fishing fleet. As has already been shown, "Progress" made no such statement.

In reference to the opinion expressed by "Merchant," that when free green fish came around Eastern Point an exodus will begin, I would suggest that it had already begun, that it began ten years ago under the present duty on green fish, and has continued, "not a mad rush, but a steady flow," and has resulted in the loss of over 1700 of our population.

Although "Progress" may be "away off" nothing has been offered on the question by "Citizen" or by "Merchant," to alter the opinion previously expressed, that free green fish will promote the growth and prosperity of our city.

PROGRESS.

Dec. 28.

SCH. CYNTHIA WILL  
MAKE FINE STOCKLEADS EIGHT ARRIVALS AT T  
WHARF WITH A FARE OF 70,  
000 POUNDS OF FISH.

There is far from being enough fish to supply the demand in at T wharf this morning, only eight arrivals and but one off shore in the bunch, the others being two of the shore craft and from the ranks of the little shore boats.

Sch. Cynthia, Capt. Geoffery Thomas, has struck it just right. The craft has 70,000 pounds of fresh fish, 40,000 pounds of which are haddock, the rest being cod and hake. The reports gives a price of \$3.90 right through on her haddock and this with what she will get on the other fish means a stock which will chafe \$2500 pretty close.

Sch. Sadie M. Nunan with 17,000 pounds of new shore stock is bound to make a fine stock.

Haddock are from \$3.90 to \$4.50 and hake, \$3.25 to \$5. Pollock are from \$3 to \$3.50, while cod are \$3.50 to \$4 for large and \$2.75 to \$3 for markets.

For last week there were 82 arrivals with ground fish at T wharf, aggregating 1,460,300 pounds, against 116 arrivals with 1,714,000 pounds for the corresponding week last year.

Dec. 28.

## Boston Arrivals.

The fares and prices in detail are:  
Sch. Elizabeth W. Nunan, 4000 haddock, 2000 cod, 1500 hake, 1500 pollock.

Sch. Annie and Jennie, 4600 haddock, 500 cod, 1000 hake.

Sch. Thomas J. Carroll, 8000 haddock, 1600 cod, 3500 hake.

Sch. Cynthia, 40,000 haddock, 14,000 cod, 16,000 hake.

Sch. Little Fannie, 3000 haddock, 300 cod.

Sch. Mabelle E. Leavitt, 3000 cod.

Sch. Sadie M. Nunan, 10,000 haddock, 800 cod, 2500 hake, 2000 cusk, 2000 pollock.

Sch. Marguerite, 3000 pollock.

Haddock, \$3.90 to \$4.50 per cwt.; large cod, \$3.50 to \$4; market cod, \$2.75 to \$3; pollock, \$3 to \$3.50; hake, \$3.25 to \$5; cusk, \$3.50.

Dec. 28.

## Good Herring Fishing in the Humber.

Advices from Bay of Islands, N. F., last night confirm the Times report of yesterday of good herring fishing in the Humber, but fish scarce in the North and Middle Arms.

## Fishing Fleet Movements.

Sch. Sylvania was at Shelburne, N. S., Saturday and cleared for Bay of Islands, N. F.